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Architectural Summary of Design Proposed Wal-Mart Yelm, WA

The proposed building concept presents architectural design elevations of exceptional quality and construction that are compatible with development standards for the Commercial – C-3 district and the Design Guidelines and will enhance the surrounding neighborhood in a Prairie style designed to complement and acknowledge the City of Yelm's historical beginnings.

The history of Yelm centers around the development of the business district as the commercial center for the prairie with an economy based on dairy farms, grain, cattle, saw mills and shingle mills. Yelm annually celebrates Prairie Days and its city slogan is "Pride of the Prairie". The architectural design of this project is specifically geared to this history, combining architectural features such as the "barn" entry elements, colors and materials into an integrated design that wraps all four sides of the building.

Architectural design of the building entrances allows maximum pedestrian visibility from all aspects of the site and surrounding public areas. Main entry features with sloping metal roofs and canopies, wood columns with cultured stone bases and wainscoting, add interest and reduce the scale of the large building. Dark gray metal siding in a "board and batten" style, along with the deep red metal roofs, reinforce the prairie theme.

The exterior walls of the building incorporate split faced concrete masonry units (CMU) walls and Exterior Insulated Finish System (EIFS) in three earth-tone colors, and a complementary green accent color. Deep red metal roofing further articulates the elevations, adding pedestrian scaled interest along the front sidewalk as well as providing some weather protection in the form of awnings that cover the sidewalk leading up to the main entrances. An ornamental architectural parapet cap runs along the roof edge that steps in various heights for additional articulation. Pilasters add vertical elements which, along with the varied use of color, help to break up the horizontal aspects of the building and aids in reducing the scale of a large building.